

11-12 FEBRUARY 2023

DAILY CONVERSATIONS IN CHINESE MEDIA

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NEWS IN CHINA

- On February 11th, a seminar of the Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee was presided over by Xu Qin, secretary of the Heilongjiang Provincial Party Committee, in order to communicate the study of the members, alternate members, and provincial and ministerial leaders in the new Central Committee. The meeting emphasised how significant General Secretary Xi Jinping's speech at the opening ceremony was - it comprehensively explained a number of modernizations in the Chinese style from a standpoint combining theory and practise, history and reality, and internal and international issues. The gathering stressed that Xi's remarks during the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee's second collective study provided a crucial foundation for speeding the formation of a new trend of development.
- On Saturday, a Chinese company's first of the 18-set supply of metro trains was delivered to the Portuguese Porto Metro company. From this Saturday until next Tuesday, the 4-car train will be on exhibit in the Trindade Metro Station in the heart of Porto. One of China's top manufacturers of trains, high-speed trains, and metro vehicles, CRRC Tangshan, produced the train. According to Zhao Bentang, the Chinese ambassador to Portugal, the delivery of the metro trains produced by CRRC Tangshan is an illustration of the strategic alliance between China and Portugal as well as the potential for further collaboration between the two nations.
- On 10th, 2023, the news of the passing of Xiang Xuan in Chengdu was reported. Xiang Xuan, an elderly Red Army soldier was also the youngest soldier to participate in the

Long March and the nephew of Marshal He Long. Xuan was 97 years old when he passed away.

- On February 11th, the third China Population and Development Forum was held in Beijing, and the "Tracking Survey on Factors Influencing the Health of the Elderly and Family Happiness in China" was published by the China Population and Development Research Center. The survey's findings indicate that older people have a high level of life satisfaction and that their offspring have good filial piety indices. According to He Dan, head of the China Population and Development Research Center, the elderly are at peace with themselves, their diet is appropriate and they engage in active learning, read books and newspapers, and even use the internet. He Dan also stated that the China Population and Development Research Center predicted that by 2050, there will be four times as many people in China above the age of 80, indicating that the country has officially entered the era of longevity.
- A Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) official barred a Chinese mainland delegation from travelling to Taiwan to pay respects to Master Hsing Yun, a mainland spokesperson stated on Saturday. The DPP authorities blatantly blocked the delegation's entry to Taiwan, disregarding basic humanitarianism, according to Zhu Fenglian, spokeswoman for the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council, leaving the ceremonies honouring Master Hsing Yun unfinished. The DPP officials' actions deeply damaged the feelings of Fo Guang Shan adherents and would not be

supported, Zhu continued. On Sunday, the mainland will honour Master Hsing Yun at the temple he helped establish in Yixing, Jiangsu Province.

- According to information from the Mumbai Stock Exchange of India, the Singapore-based e-commerce business of Alibaba Group sold the Indian electronic payments startup Paytm on February 11th at a price of 13.78 billion rupees for all outstanding shares. This was done through a block transaction on February 10th. That day Paytm's shares closed substantially lower by more than 8% as a result of the news. Alibaba has completely sold its 6.26% stake in Paytm. It is vital to note that Ant Group, a significant affiliate of Alibaba, has not reduced the number of shares it owns in Paytm. 25% of the stock of the corporation is still owned by Ant Group.
 - A 2.8-magnitude earthquake with a focal depth of 14 kilometres and an epicentre at 39.76 degrees north latitude and 115.63 degrees east longitude occurred near the Fangshan District of Beijing at 16:42 on February 12, according to official measurements by the China Earthquake Network. According to the most recent information from the Beijing Seismological Bureau, this earthquake is a typical earthquake in the Beijing region based on analysis and judgement of regional structure, historical seismic activity, earthquake sequence type, current seismic activity, and geophysical anomalies. It seems improbable that an earthquake of magnitude 4 or higher will happen in the Beijing area, including the initial earthquake zone, due to changes in activity.
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- Local authorities said they were prepared to fire down an unidentified flying object that was spotted over the Bohai Sea near a port city in northern China. The Qingdao Marine Development Bureau warned fishing boats to "avoid risks" and to be on high alert. The sighting occurred during PLA's week-long military drill in the Bohai Strait, which connects the Bohai Sea and the northern Yellow Sea.
 - A Chinese rescue team conducting search and rescue efforts in Antakya, Hatay Province, Turkey, was able to save a fifth survivor on the afternoon of February 12th. At 3:30 that day, the Chinese and Turkish rescue teams had worked together for more than 4 hours to safely free the trapped guy from the wreckage. More than 150 hours have passed since the earthquake happened as of this moment. Currently, the Chinese rescue team is working with the United Nations Rescue Organization's Regional Rescue Coordination Center to coordinate teams in the area to initiate rescue operations and to communicate with newly arrived rescue teams.

SOCIAL MEDIA CHATTER IN CHINA

- **Smuggled Tibetan tripe confiscated at Chinese border:** Smuggled Tibetan tripe were repeatedly confiscated by the Customs of Horgos International Border Cooperation Center, which is connected to Urumqi Customs. 50.5 kg of tripe in total were seized, according to the Weibo video. The entry was concealed by loose garments. The appropriate departments

have received the offenders for additional processing. Dian Shi News posted the video on Weibo, where it has received over 13 million views.

INDIA WATCH

- Following a series of deadly earthquakes that struck Central and Eastern Turkey, as well as the Turkish-Syrian border region, both countries urgently require quick international assistance. China has promised to provide Syria with \$30 million in emergency humanitarian help, of which \$2 million would be utilised for cash and desperately needed relief materials. In addition, it has already agreed to provide Turkey with a first infusion of 40 million yuan in emergency funding. Despite all the international assistance, Chinese rescue teams are ahead of the game when it comes to coordinating with local authorities to conduct rescue operations, corresponding with recently arrived rescue teams, and taking part in the activities of the Regional Rescue Coordination Center of the UN Rescue Organization. India is aiding Turkey at a time when relations are still tight, especially because of Turkish rhetoric on Kashmir. However, the government's decision to send assistance to Turkey, putting aside political concerns, similar to Turkey's decision to give aid to India during the COVID-19 pandemic, does help better the two countries' ties.